

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 and 21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5-9, 13 and 15 are amended. No new matter is added by these amendments as support can be found in at least paragraph [0051] of the Applicants specification. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Office Action, in paragraph 10, states that claims 8-11 recite allowable subject matter. These claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants appreciate this indication of allowability and amend claim 8 to recite all of the features of claim 7, from which it depended, to place this claim in condition for allowance.

The Office Action, in paragraph 2, rejects claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claims 1, 7 and 15 are amended to further clarify the subject matter recited. The Applicants respectfully submit that paragraph [0051] of the disclosure adequately describes the manner and process for recording the crosstalk hologram with the same optical system used for recording the data hologram.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, are respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, objects to claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 13 for informalities. Claims 5, 6, 8, 9 and 13 have been amended to obviate the objection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection of claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 13 are respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 5, rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,322,932 to Colvin et al. (hereinafter "Colvin"). The

Office Action, in paragraph 7, rejects claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Colvin in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,483,611 to Mitzutani et al. (hereinafter "Mitzutani"). Additionally, in paragraph 8, the Office Action rejects claims 7, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,958,892 to Jannson et al. (hereinafter "Jannson") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,162,927 to Moss et al. (hereinafter "Moss"); claims 15-19 and 21 are rejected, in paragraph 9, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Colvin. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

In rejecting claims 1-4 the Office Action asserts that Colvin teaches all of the features positively recited in at least independent claim 1. However, Colvin does not teach the crosstalk layer [being] formed of one of a photopolymer, a dichroic holographic material and a photorefractive material and being set to exhibit no sensitivity or very low sensitivity to interference fringes of an object beam and a reference beam at the time of data hologram recording in the recording layer, wherein the photopolymer develops photosensitivity through a polymerization initiator having an absorption edge at a wavelength shorter than those of the object beam and the reference beam, the photosensitivity in the dichroic holographic material can be turned ON-OFF by the presence or absence of a gate beam, and the photorefractive material exhibits photosensitivity only under the presence of an electrostatic field, as positively recited in amended claim 1.

With respect to claim 7, the Office Action asserts that Jannson, in some combination with Moss, teaches a holographic erasing method. This assertion is incorrect. Jannson teaches a diffraction coherence filter, and Moss, in any permissible combination with Jannson, fails to teach the features of amended claim 7, as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Colvin. Claim 15 is allowable for the same reasons as presented above with respect to claim 1.

Specifically, that Colvin fails to teach, or to have suggested, the crosstalk layer is formed of one of a photopolymer, a dichroic holographic material and a photorefractive material and being set to exhibit no sensitivity or very low sensitivity to interference fringes of an object beam and a reference beam at the time of recording of the data holograms, wherein the photopolymer develops photosensitivity through a polymerization initiator having an absorption edge at a wavelength shorter than those of the object beam and the reference beam, the photosensitivity in the dichroic holographic material can be turned ON-OFF by the presence or absence of a gate beam, and the photorefractive material exhibits photosensitivity only under the presence of an electrostatic field, as positively recited in amended claim 15.

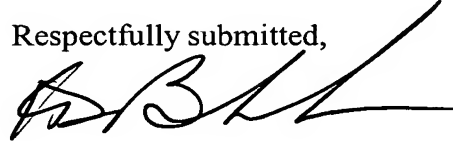
For at least the above reasons, Colvin, Mitzutani, Jannson and Moss cannot reasonably be considered to teach, or to have suggested, the combinations of all of the features recited in at least independent claims 1, 7, 8 and 15. Further, claims 2-6 and 9-14, 16-19 and 21 would also not have been suggested by the applied prior art references for at least the respective dependence of these claims on allowable independent claims 1, 7, 8 and 15 as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-19 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of applied prior art references are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-19 and 21 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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